

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 DAMASC 04599 101631Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEAE-00 SAA-01 SES-02 SSO-00 NSCE-00
SS-15 SP-02 SSM-03 SY-05 MCT-02 IO-13 INRE-00
CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 ICAE-00 PM-05 PA-01 /070 W
-----029073 101647Z /46

O 101546Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9157
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
SECDEF WASHDC
DIA WASHDC

S E C R E T DAMASCUS 4599

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2,4
TAGS: PINR, PINS, PINT, SY, PLO
SUBJ: ASSASSINATIONS OF THREE ALAWITE OFFICERS

1. AT 10:00 A.M. AUGUST 10 DEPUTY MINISTER OF INTERIOR,
AHMAD KHALIL, WAS ASSASSINATED BY TWO MEN ON A MOTOCYCLE
DRESSED IN CAMOUFLAGE FATIGUES. KHALIL WAS AN ALAWITE
OFFICER THE RANK OF LT. COLONEL AND SERVED PREVIOUSLY
IN THE SECURITY FORCES.

2. IN ADDITION, WE HAVE REPORT THAT TWO OTHER OFFICERS
WERE ASSASSINATED AT PRECISELY THE SAME TIME AS KHALIL
IN TWO DIFFERENT SECTIONS OF THE CITY. BOTH OFFICERS WERE
ALAWITE AND ONE WAS REPORTEDLY A RELATIVE OF PRESIDENT ASSAD.
ON OFFICER WAS A BRIGADIRE GENERAL AND THE OTHER'S RANK
SECRET

SECRET

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IS UNKNOWN SECURITY AUTHORITIES HAVE APPARENTLY APPREHENDED
ONE OF THE PERPETRATORS AND HE WAS IDENTIFIED AS A
PALESTINIAN. IT THIS IS THE CASE, IT IS LIKELY THAT THESE
ASSASSINATIONS ARE RELATED TO THE CURRENT CONFLICT BETWEEN
FATAH, PLO REJECTIONIST, AND IRAQ. WE HAVE NO INFORMATION AS TO
THE IDENTITY OF THESE TWO ADDITIONAL OFFICERS.

3. SYRIAN OFFICIALS HAVE TRANSPORTED KHALIL'S BODY FROM
THE HOSPITAL BY FUNERAL CORTAGE TO HIS HOMETOWN
FOR BURIAL. USE OF OFFICIAL CORTEGE MAY INDICATE SYRIANS
PLAN TO PUBLICIZE THIS ASSASSINATION. WE WILL OBTAIN
FURTHER DETAILS AND SEEK CONFIRMATION OF ABOVE REPORTS
AUG 11.
SEELYE

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ASSASSINATION, MILITARY PERSONNEL
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978DAMASC04599
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: DG ALSO X2
Executive Order: X4
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780327-1166
Format: TEL
From: DAMASCUS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780879/aaaacnzz.tel
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: fed45b65-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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TAGS: PINR, PINS, PINT, SY, PLO, (KHALIL, AHMAD)
To: STATE
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